UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

MIDWEST CONSTRUCTION)
SERVICES, INC., dba TRILLIUM)
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES,)
Plaintiff,)
Traintiff,) Case No.
V.)
) Judge
WENDT, LLP, et al.,)
)
D 0 1)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendant Wendt, LLP ("Wendt"), by and through its undersigned counsel and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, files its Notice of Removal to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division. Wendt asserts the following grounds supporting removal:

- 1. This matter was filed in the Erie County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas and assigned case number 2022 CV 0490 on or about December 7, 2022. Wendt was delivered a copy of the Complaint via certified mail by the clerk on or about December 15, 2022.
- 2. As Wendt was not served more than 30 days before this Notice of Removal and because this action was commenced less than one year ago, this Notice of Removal is timely pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446.
- 3. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441 because this case could have originally been filed in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.

- 4. Specifically, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action because there is the requisite diversity of citizenship between Plaintiff and all Defendants and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 5. Plaintiff Trillium is a citizen of the State of Iowa by its incorporation and State of Michigan as it is headquartered in Michigan. (*See*, Plaintiff's Complaint at ¶ 1).
- 6. Wendt is a citizen of Indiana because it is an Indiana limited liability partnership with its partners in Indiana.
- 7. Defendant Roeslein & Associates, Inc. ("Roeslein") is a Missouri corporation headquartered in Missouri.
- 8. Defendant Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America ("Travelers Surety") is a Connecticut corporation headquartered in Connecticut.
 - 9. Since all of the parties are citizens of different states, diversity of citizenship exists.
- 10. All Defendants unanimously consent to the removal. Roeslein and Travelers join the Notice of Removal.
- 11. Plaintiff's Complaint pleads damages exceeding \$75,000, specifically alleging damages in excess of \$250,000. (See, Plaintiff's Complaint at ¶ 15).
- 12. The United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division, embraces the county in which the state court action is now pending.
- 13. Thus, this Court is the proper venue for this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 115 (a)(1).
- 14. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Wendt will give written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal to Plaintiff and will file a copy of the Notice of Removal with the Clerk of the Erie County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, the Court in which the action is currently pending.

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15. If any question arises as to the propriety of the removal of this action, Wendt

requests the opportunity to brief any disputed issues and to present oral argument in support of

removal.

16. A copy of all process, pleadings, and other documents served on Wendt in the state

court matter, including plaintiff's Petition, is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

17. A copy of Civil Cover Sheet is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u>.

18. Nothing in this Notice of Removal shall be interpreted as a waiver or

relinquishment of any of Wendt's rights to assert any defense or affirmative matter, including, but

not limited to, the defenses of (a) lack of jurisdiction over the person, (b) improper venue, (c)

insufficiency of process, (d) insufficiency of service of process, (e) improper joinder of claims

and/or parties, (f) failure to state a claim, (g) failure to join indispensable party, (h) first-to-file

rule, and (i) any other procedural or substantive defense available under state or federal law.

WHEREFORE, Wendt, LLP respectfully requests this matter be removed from the Erie

County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas to the United States District Court for the Northern District

of Ohio, Western Division, and for other and further relief this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nicholas W. Schwandner

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Certificate of Service

I certify that, on January 10, 2023, I served a copy by email, upon:

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